

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10219

FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PK, PINR

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: GOP MINISTER OF PRODUCTION RAFI RAZA

1. SINCE RAFI RAZI HAS NOW BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PAK
DELEGATION WHICH WILL MEET HERE WITH THE SECRETARY'S PARTY,
AND IS TO GREET THE SECRETARY AT THE AIRPORT AND ACT AS HIS
INFORMAL
ESCORT, THE FOLLOWING FULLER BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
ON HIM MAY BE HELPFUL.

2. RAZA, WHO IS 38. IS AN OXFORD-EDUCATED LAWYER WHO HAS
BECOME ONE OF PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S CLOSEST CONFIDANTS.
HE GRAVITATED TO BHUTTO'S PAKISTAN PEOPLE'S PARTY IN 1969
WHEN IT WAS STILL VERY MUCH IN THE WILDERNESS AND BECAME
ITS CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISOR, ACCOMPANYING BHUTTO TO MANY OF
THE MEETINGS HE SUBSEQUENTLY HELD WITH PRESIDENT YAHYA
KHAN AT WHICH THE TRANSITIONAL POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS
DESIGNED TO BRING YAHYA'S MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION TO
AN END AND USHER IN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT WERE WORKED OUT.
HE ALSO ACCOMPANIED BHUTTO TO THE CLIMACTIC UN SECURITY
COUNCIL SESSION IN DECEMBER 1971 DURING THE INDIA-PAKISTAN
WAR.

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3. WHEN BHUTTO TOOK OFFICE LATER THAT MONTH HE NAMED RAZA

HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT, A POSITION HE HELD UNTIL JULY 1973. DURING THAT TIME HIS INFLUENCE CONTINUED TO MOUNT AND THE PRIME MINISTER TURNED TO HIM FOR A VARIETY OF SPECIAL PROJECTS.

4. WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN UPPER HOUSE OF THE PAKISTAN PARLIAMENT LAST YEAR, RAZA WAS NAMED A SENATOR (AN INDIRECTLY ELECTED POSITION) REPRESENTING THE KARACHI AREA. SOME TIME AFTERWARDS IT WAS THOUGH HE WAS OUT OF BHUTTO'S FAVOR AND HE TALKED OF RETURNING TO HIS LUCRATIVE LAW PRACTICE IN KARACHI BUT THIS JULY, WHEN BHUTTO SUDDENLY DISMISSED HIS LEFT-WINGING MINISTER OF PRODUCTION, RAZA WAS NAMED TO THE JOB. HE RETAINED THIS POSITION IN LAST WEEK'S CABINET RESHUFFLE.

5. RAZA IS SMOOTH, SOPHISTICATED, AMBITIOUS AND INTELLIGENT. HE ENJOYS AN ARGUMENT AND CAN AT TIMES BE QUITE SELF-ASSURED. A GENUINE SOCIALIST WHO SINCERELY WISHES TO IMPROVE THE LOT OF PAKISTAN'S POOR, HE IS NEVERTHELESS PREPARED TO BE QUITE PRAGMATIC IN HIS APPROACH TO POLITICA AND ECONOMIC ISSUES. HE WRITES MANY OF BHUTTO'S SPEECHES AND IS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE PPP'S LEADING THINKERS AND THEORTICIANS. IN ADDITION TO HIS FORMAL CABINET RESPONSIBILITIES HE CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRINCIPAL TROUBLE SHOOTERS ON A BROAD VARIETY OF SUBJECTS. HE RECENTLY ACCOMPANIED THE PRIME MINISTER TO MOSCOW.

6. RAZA IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER ROSEMARY GARGILL WHOM HE MET IN MANILA WHEN SHE WAS SECOND SECRETARY AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY THERE AND HE A MEMBER OF THE PAKISTAN STAFF AT THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. THEY HAVE TWO SONS. BIO INFORMATION ON MRS. RAZA WAS SENT TO THE SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR MRS. KISSINGER'S USE AS ISLAMABAD 10210. BYROADE

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